Sirhan Trial Bogged

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LOS ANGELES (AP) — Radio newsmen testified secretly in the trial of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan Thursday as his defenders tried to show his case was damaged because of publicity. His attorneys also sought evidence to support quashing his indictment.

Sirhan and his lawyers, and attorneys prosecuting him on a charge he murdered Robert F. Kennedy, spent only nine minutes in open court before Judge Herbert V. Walker adjourned the trial until Monday for the start of jury selection.

Asked whether the publicity might be used to request a change of venue, Berman's co-counsel, Russell B. Parsons, pointed out as he has before that there are few places in the world the case hasn't been publicized.

He was asked if a motion for a mistrial would be more likely?

"I would say so," Parsons replied.